

LEAD FILES (3)

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action was more severe. On one of Prince Philip's brief visits to Ottawa, no press conference was scheduled but the gallery ~~was~~ ~~at~~ ~~least~~ ~~come~~ ~~over~~ ~~for~~ ~~a~~ ~~drink~~. Government House agreed to recommend this if assured that it would be a purely social affair, about which nothing would be written. The gallery gave the assurance, and Prince Philip came. One member (now dead) defied the ban and wrote the story anyway, to the annoyance of His Royal Highness, the embarrassment of Government House, and the fury of fellow members who had been not only shamed and betrayed, but also scooped. The culprit was haled before the executive and suspended for two weeks. (Whether the sentence was carried out is debatable; he left next day on vacation, and resumed normal duty when he got back.)

Another incident was Mackenzie King's speech to the 1948 gallery dinner, reaffirming his intention to retire (which he'd already announced in a public address months before). Old as the news was, the Canadian Press thought it too important to ignore. The CP bureau chief telephoned the prime minister next morning (Sunday) and got his permission to print it. Naturally, the prime minister didn't mind, but the rival British United Press was furious—all the more so because the PM's speech, or a rehearsal of it, was first delivered to a luncheon given by the BUP bureau chief, Norman MacLeod. However, the gallery took no action. This incident may have been the origin of the view that secrecy at gallery dinners is intended to conceal not important news, but only indiscreet behavior.

Even the latter convention has not always been respected. Recently in a magazine article, extracted from his new book, Max Ferguson described (quite inaccurately, according to my own recollection) a *contretemps* involving George Drew, the Conservative leader. Ferguson was present at that gallery dinner only as a guest and was perhaps never cautioned about the taboo on reporting; but the magazine is edited and published by ex-members of the gallery and is responsible for what it prints.

Admittedly, some journalists carry the off-the-record commitment to an extreme. Probably the ultimate was achieved when the gallery decided, by majority vote, that its own proceedings should be secret. But the dissenting minority proclaimed at the time that it had no intention of obeying this rule, and there has never been any serious attempt to enforce it.

At the opposite extreme, some maintain that "nothing is ever off the record," and that no reporter should ever go to any gathering where an off-the-record commitment is accepted. Carried to its logical conclusion, this would mean no honest reporter could ever accept an invitation to dinner. Some other guest might innocently mistake him for a gentleman, and let fall a remark not intended for publication.

BLAIR FRASER

Did this man happen

Here's what a Winnipeg salesman can add to James Garrison's "conspiracy" case

THE WINNIPEG International Airport terminal, with its 42,546 square feet of Solex glass curtain walls, looks almost light enough to take off. Inside this \$18,000,000 monument to the Department of Transport the decor is determinedly modern, with \$35,000 worth of art objects including enormous geometric murals by prairie professors and metal sculptures imported from Toronto. There are fountains, birch trees, chairs that seem to have been made of chicken wire, a split-level black-carpeted lounge called the Horizon Room, and, under a milk-white ceiling illuminated by 8,000 fluorescent tubes, a marble-tiled mezzanine the size of a football field.

On February 13, 1964, in this improbably exotic setting, where James Bond might have struggled with SMERSH, an overweight Winnipeg salesman named Richard Giesbrecht was caught up in the maelstrom that had begun in Dallas three months before and continues to this day. Giesbrecht believes he was a witness to nothing less than a meeting of two men who had conspired to kill President John F. Kennedy, and swears that a third man, a burly, suitably ominous figure with a smashed nose and flushed cheeks, played a bizarre cat-and-mouse game with him all over the mezzanine to frighten him into silence.

"Too big" for FBI

Ever since, Giesbrecht, a palpably sincere and rational 35-year-old Menonite with four children, has swung between fear and frustration. Fear that the disclosure of his identity — his name is revealed here publicly for the first time — would lead to harassment by cranks, or worse. (He is aware that 20 or so people tenuously linked to investigations of an alleged conspiracy have died since November, 1963.) Frustration because he believes that the FBI deliberately squelched his story. Giesbrecht talked to an agent named Meryll Nelson whom he contacted through the U.S. consulate in Winnipeg. He says that Nelson remarked, "This looks like the break we've been waiting for" — only to tell him a few months later to forget the whole thing. "It's too big," Nelson is supposed to have said. "We can't protect you in Canada."

Then, last February 23, visiting a hospitalized friend, Giesbrecht saw a newspaper photograph of David W. Ferrie, a New Orleans pilot who had been found dead, ostensibly of a hemorrhage caused by a ruptured blood vessel — although he had left behind two suicide notes. There was

something about the photograph that struck Giesbrecht. There was something familiar about the man's inordinately bushy eyebrows. Then it came to him that this was one of the men he had encountered at the airport three years before.

The picture's caption revealed that, before he died, Ferrie had told reporters that he'd been pegged as a "getaway pilot" by Jim Garrison, the New Orleans district attorney, who was conducting an independent investigation of Kennedy's death. Garrison concurred. "We had reached a decision to arrest him," he said. "Apparently we waited too long." Then the flamboyant D.A. added three lines that reverberated around the world: "My staff and I solved the assassination weeks ago. I wouldn't say this if we didn't have the evidence beyond the shadow of a doubt. We know the key individuals, the cities involved and how it was done."

The DA calls

All that was last February. Throughout the spring and summer, Garrison had neither put up nor shut up, although he professed himself ready to reveal his findings at the trial this fall of Clay Shaw, a prominent New Orleans businessman arrested on March 1 on charges of conspiring to assassinate John F. Kennedy. (Most of the U.S. press attempted to discredit Garrison's case against Shaw, but a panel of three judges and a grand jury ruled that there was sufficient evidence to hold him for trial.) Garrison believes that Shaw, Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby and others — most of them hair-trigger anti-Castroites — conspired to kill Kennedy because of his plan for a *détente* with Cuba, and because Kennedy was cracking down on CIA-supported anti-Castro activity in Dallas, Miami and New Orleans. There is the chilling suggestion that, some time in the early fall of 1963, in New Orleans, a sizeable group of Right-wing extremists, deranged adventurers and Cuban exiles abruptly switched targets — from Castro to Kennedy.

With the help of the Winnipeg *Free Press*, which had printed an account of his story without using his name, Giesbrecht finally got in touch with an authority who wanted to use his testimony, and who did not, as he puts it, "just tell me to shut up about it": Jim Garrison. One of Garrison's assistants called Giesbrecht in March and expressed extreme interest in what he had overheard. There were more calls from the D.A.'s office to check details. In late September Giesbrecht

K.C. Check reg

upon John Kennedy's assassins

agreed tentatively to testify at Clay Shaw's trial, although Mrs. Giesbrecht was afraid to see her husband get mixed up in the case.

What spurred Giesbrecht to agree to testify was a call he had got in early summer from Garrison himself. "He told me that my evidence would be a great help to him, and that the pieces locked perfectly into place, although he didn't explain how. He confirmed that Ferrie had been in Winnipeg at the time and he said that no people from Winnipeg were involved. Maybe these men were making connections to Minneapolis or Chicago. They just happened to be here when I ran into them."

On that day, February 13, 1964, Giesbrecht had set up an appointment with a client who worked at nearby Bristol Aircraft. He arrived at the airport early, shortly after 2 p.m., to have his first look inside the new terminal. He sauntered around, went into the Horizon Room, had one drink, a Moscow Mule, walked out to have a look at Gerald Gladstone's sculpture, *Solar Cone*, in a fountain courtyard near the lounge, called his client, found he had more time to kill, returned to the lounge, sat at the same table half-way along a wall of windows and ordered a Seven-Up. Two men had taken the adjacent table. His back to them, Giesbrecht planned his sales approach and did some figuring on his weekly calendar pad. At some point, probably at about 2:45 p.m., he became aware that his neighbors were discussing the assassination in a way that seemed to implicate them.

He started to listen, then to take notes. It seemed to him that one of the men had a "Latin" accent; the other, the one he later concluded was Ferrie, an "American" accent. The voices were rather high-pitched, precise-sounding. He sensed that both men were homosexuals.

Oswald a pawn

"I got the impression that a man named Isaacs was to have been the assassin or one of them, but that he had taken on Oswald to do the dirty work," Giesbrecht says. "In the opinion of these men Oswald was a psycho. One of them said, 'How did Isaacs get mixed up with a psycho like that?' The man I think of as Ferrie wondered how much Oswald had passed on to his wife or, for that matter, anyone else. Being mixed up with Oswald had been a foolish thing. Ferrie said that Isaacs could be seen on some film of Kennedy getting off a plane shortly before the assassination. These men assured each other that when a man named Hochman or Hoffman got to Isaacs all loose ends would be tied up. He would also

make sure that a certain car was destroyed. Ferrie said there was more money now at their disposal than ever. They discussed a meeting to be held at the Townhouse Motor Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 18. There had been no meeting since early November of 1963."

During all this time Giesbrecht was hunched over his calendar pad, straining to pick up the low voices over the piped-in music, the muffled shriek of engines through the twin-paned windows and the conversation of about a dozen other people in the big dim room. He was aware of some girls at a corner table who laughed a lot.

"Auntie" flies in

There was more. The meeting would be registered under the name of a textile firm. Ferrie mentioned an "aunt" who would be flying in from California. A name that sounded like Romeniuk came up several times. Ferrie asked about paper or merchandise coming out of Nevada. Latin Accent said it was too risky and that a house or shop had been closed down at a place called Mercury. He said that "a good shipment" had reached Caracas from Newport. There was some speculation that investigation of Kennedy's death would not end if the Warren Commission found Oswald guilty.

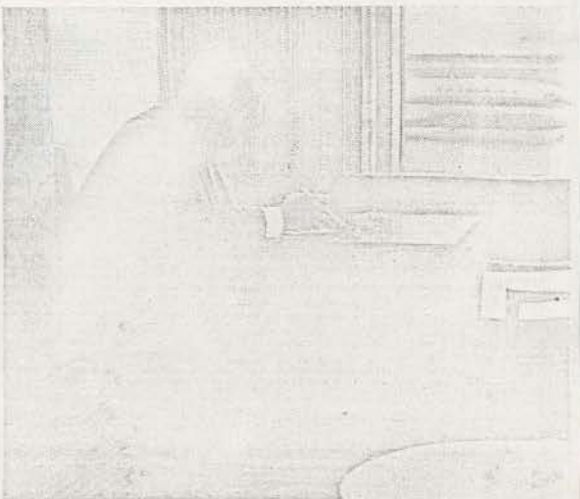
Giesbrecht managed to get a fast look at the man he later said was Ferrie. "I told the FBI that he had the oddest hair and eyebrows I'd ever seen," he says. "The eyebrows were wide and sort of streaky. The hair was very shiny and it started quite

far back on his head." (According to press reports, Ferrie wore a red wig and false eyebrows to conceal burns he had suffered years before. Giesbrecht says he didn't notice the color of his hair.) It seems to him that the man resembled Lauret "when he gets that look he's going to cry." Giesbrecht didn't really see the second man's face; he was sitting back to back. He noticed that his chin and neck were pock-marked and that he wore hearing aid in his right ear. Both were in their middle or late 40s; wore light tweed suits and loafers.

Perhaps Giesbrecht was doing much craning around in his chair any rate, two things happened almost simultaneously. The first was that he became aware he was being stared at by a man sitting alone across a corner of the lounge, in front of a window and a drape separating the lounge and dining room. The second was that the conversation behind him changed to come innocuous. He can remember Ferrie saying that he had flown airplane like one on the apron outside the window — a small, executive plane, Giesbrecht thinks it was, with two propellers.

"I felt a wee bit jittery or excited," he says. "I felt uneasy, uncomfortable. I put on my overcoat. The conversation had stopped. This third man was just staring at me. He was sort of ugly man. He had a nose that seemed flat, a fighter's nose. It was a pale nose. He was very fair, with flushed cheeks. He was in his thirties, a big man, odd-looking. I wanted to walk by him to get out."

Giesbrecht, feeling uneasy, hurried past Gladstone's *Solar Cone* into



At this table in Winnipeg's airport, Richard Giesbrecht took notes while overhearing two men who may have been in on JFK's assassination.

→ I seem to recall a man named Isaacs...
Hochman...
of Resurrection Club

check registration

Kennedy's assassins?

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Perhaps Giesbrecht was doing too much craning around in his chair. At any rate, two things happened almost simultaneously. The first was that he became aware he was being stared at by a man sitting alone across a corner of the lounge, in front of a metal drapery separating the lounge and the dining room. The second was that the conversation behind him changed, became innocuous. He can remember Ferrie saying that he had flown an airplane like one on the apron outside the window — a small, executive plane, Giesbrecht thinks it was, with two propellers.

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Giesbrecht, feeling uneasy, hurried past Gladstone's Solar Cone into the

mezzanine, turned left and headed for a newsstand that forms an island in the middle of the 300-foot-long waiting area. He asked a saleslady if there were police in the airport. There was an RCMP detachment, Room 24. To get there Giesbrecht started to walk toward a covered bridge joining the terminal and the administration unit. He stopped. On the middle of three steps at the near end of the bridge was the man who had been staring at him in the Horizon Room. He was staring at Giesbrecht again.

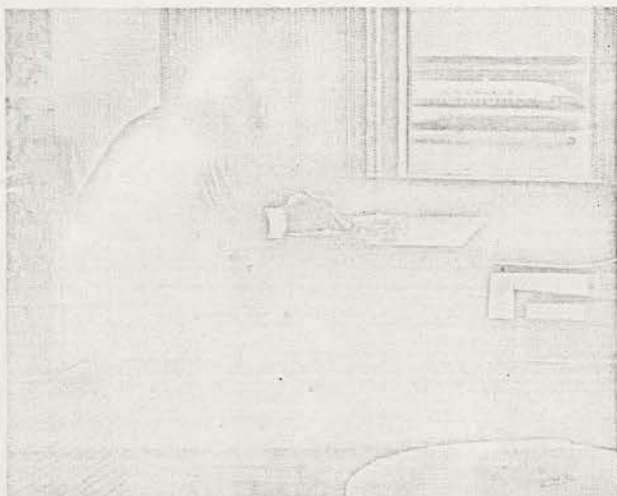
"I felt uneasy," Giesbrecht says. He turned around, went back into the newsstand and asked where the nearest phone was. He walked into the mezzanine again, turned left and walked 100 feet or so, turned left again past a Walter Yarwood metal sculpture that crouches over a fountain in another courtyard, to a bank of 10 telephones mounted on a blue tile wall. Giesbrecht picked up the sixth phone, called the Winnipeg RCMP number, got on to a corporal, introduced himself and glanced to his right.

Tattooed stranger

"The same man, the third man, was just about a yard away. He was right on me. So I just hung up and walked away. I don't remember how much I said to the RCMP. As I hung up the phone I felt too uneasy to look at his face, but I noticed that he had markings on his fingers. I think they were tattoos. I walked into a large flight room, at gates two and three, where there were a lot of people. I stayed in there for a while and then I went out again and down the stairs at the north end of the mezzanine and into the parking lot. I drove away from the airport and then I did a sort of foolish thing. I never bothered about my client, and not only that, when I got about a mile away from the airport I took the notes and tore them up and burned them. Ask me why and I don't know. I rewrote the notes as best I could that night at home and hid them in a dresser drawer."

Giesbrecht doesn't have any pat explanations about what he overheard, but he says he believes that a conspiracy killed Kennedy. He says he is glad to be able to help Garrison, especially since he found his earlier dealings with the FBI upsetting. "I've had three years of feeling like a little child that wants to convey something, and nobody's listening," he says. "It bugs a person. It does. They're happy to hear what you have to say but then it's, 'Shut up, because it's too big.' If it's something that's too big for the authorities, then the United States is in a pretty bad way, isn't it?"

JON RUDDY



At this table in Winnipeg's airport, Richard Giesbrecht took notes while overhearing two men who may have been in on JFK's assassination.

CLERRY GUNNIS

man seated at table of Winnipeg Airport

Farrell, 10/27/67

M E M O R A N D U M

October 27, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney
FROM: ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA, Assistant D. A.
RE: WILLIAM JERNIGAN

On October 26, 1967 I attempted to talk to William Jernigan who is incarcerated in the Criminally Insane Division of East Louisiana State Hospital, Jackson, Louisiana. I first talked to Dr. Metz who informed me that the patient was a paranoid schizophrenic and was completely detached from reality and considered very dangerous. Only last Sunday the patient had to be handcuffed as he tried to harm some of the guards. The patient is around 6'3", 240 lbs., and played professional football. In view of the above statistics, I thought that perhaps I should wait until he was in a better mood to talk to him.

Dr. Metz was reluctant to let me look through his medical records for fear that he might violate a doctor-patient relationship. However, the next time I go there I will contact Dr. Armstrong and feel sure that I will be able to look at the records. Dr. Armstrong was not at the hospital yesterday. I did obtain the address of the patient's mother in case we did want to talk to her in Dallas.

Mrs. Frank Jernigan
4548 Belclair
Dallas, Texas
Telephone - 521-1955

For: lead files

M E M O R A N D U M

July 17, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: JAMES L. ALCOCK, Executive Assistant District Attorney

RE: CHARLES I. SPIESEL, 54 W. 55th St., New York, New York
Father's address - 255 W. 23rd St., Apartment 5H-E,
New York, New York - Telephone No. 784-2166

Upon my arrival in New York, I contacted MR. CHARLES I. SPIESEL at the Slattery Construction Company where he was doing some auditing work. We arranged to meet that evening at about 6:00 P.M. At approximately 6:00 P.M. on July 13, 1967, MR. SPIESEL and I met in the lobby of my hotel, the New York Hilton, and went to a restaurant in Greenwich Village. It was at this restaurant that the interview was conducted.

In June of 1963, MR. SPIESEL was in the City of New Orleans doing per diem accounting work. While in the City of New Orleans MR. SPIESEL spent considerable time at Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop located at 941 Bourbon Street. One night, probably in the month of June, 1963, while at Lafitte's MR. SPIESEL saw two couples enter Lafitte's and he thought he recognized one of the men. MR. SPIESEL thought he recognized this man as having been a person in the U.S. Air Force with him in Africa in 1943. MR. SPIESEL went over to these people and asked the man he thought he recognized if he remembered him from the service. As SPIESEL recalls, this man said something about "ferry" and SPIESEL thought he said something about ferry service of airplanes to the African sector. The man MR. SPIESEL thought to be a wartime acquaintance was not too receptive to conversation with MR. SPIESEL. Therefore, MR. SPIESEL returned to the bar and continued drinking. (MR. SPIESEL later identified a newspaper picture of DAVID W. FERRIE as being the same person who he approached in Lafitte's in June, 1963, and thought he had recognized as a wartime acquaintance of his in Africa).

Sometime later the man MR. SPIESEL had spoken to approached him at the bar and asked him if he would like to go to a party. MR. SPIESEL agreed and the five people all left the bar.

Along with the man MR. SPIESEL thought he recognized, was another white male about 5'7" in height, light hair and approximately 140 to 145 pounds, appearing to be 23 to 25 years of age. There was also a very attractive dark haired girl who was about 5'6" tall and another girl who MR. SPIESEL recalls might have been redheaded. MR. SPIESEL later deduced from the conversation that these girls were airline stewardesses.

Once on the street, the above described individuals and MR. SPIESEL entered a blue or red (MR. SPIESEL leans more towards blue) Volkswagon. The group then went to an apartment in the French Quarter, the exact location of which MR. SPIESEL does not recall.

NOVEL ?

Upon arriving at the apartment MR. SPIESEL recalls it was necessary to walk up at least two flights of stairs to gain entrance. MR. SPIESEL and the people with him were met at the door of the apartment by an unidentified white male who directed them inside and introduced MR. SPIESEL to a man he identifies as CLAY SHAW. MR. SHAW then introduced MR. SPIESEL to approximately four or five other males who were already in the apartment at the time he arrived. MR. SPIESEL recalls that the kitchen-dining room area of the apartment had an orange and yellow brick wall and built into this wall was a grill. MR. SPIESEL recalls specifically asking the man he identifies as CLAY SHAW whether they ever did any cooking on the grill. He was told by this man that they did on occasion cook on the grill. The only other feature of the apartment recalled by MR. SPIESEL was a round table with a metal extension that had pockets or compartments in it for the placing of drinks, food, etc.

One of the individuals at the party was a white male, approximately 5'9" tall, about 160 to 170 pounds, with dirty blonde hair and a sharp nose. This man had what appeared to MR. SPIESEL to be a month's growth of beard on his face. Also this individual had a splint with adhesive tape wrapped around it on the middle finger of his left hand. MR. SPIESEL has identified this man as being the same person depicted in our picture of LEE HARVEY OSWALD with the beard drawn on it. However, MR. SPIESEL does not identify this man as LEE HARVEY OSWALD. MR. SPIESEL could not give any description of the other guests.

WILLIAM
SEYMOUR

Sometime after his arrival at the apartment, the two girls and the white male with the man who MR. SPIESEL identified as DAVID FERRIE left the party. The girls were to fly out of New Orleans the next morning as stewardesses but MR. SPIESEL does not know what airline they worked for. After they left, the conversation among the remaining guests centered upon PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. The general feeling from all in attendance was bitterness toward the late President. Finally, someone suggested that he should be killed. The conversation then centered around means and methods to be used in killing the President. The final consensus of those participating in the discussion was that the President would have to be killed with a high-powered rifle with a telescopic site from a distance of about one-half mile to one mile. During the course of this discussion the man identified as CLAY SHAW remained in the background and laughed at the remarks made by his guests. However, MR. SPIESEL interjected that the man doing the shooting would probably be killed and MR. SHAW turned to the man identified as DAVID FERRIE and asked him if the individual doing the shooting could be flown out to safety. As MR. SPIESEL recalls, DAVID FERRIE appeared to be somewhat taken aback by this question but after some stammering did agree that the individual could be flown to safety. MR. SPIESEL did not consider the overall conversation as too significant or sinister. However, at one point during the conversation the man with the beard said that he would kill the President. When he said this the people present laughed and commented that it would be extremely difficult for him to do this considering the splint that he had on his hand. The man with the beard said that he would be taking the splint off very soon and then he could kill the President. MR. SPIESEL became somewhat alarmed at this point because of the demeanor of this man at the time he made this statement. The man's expression in his eyes lent some gravity to his words.

MR. SPIESEL left the party about this time and walked back to Lafitte's. As he recalls it, the distance from the apartment to Lafitte's was not too great.

MR. SPIESEL did not see CLAY SHAW again after the above described party. However, he saw the man he identifies as DAVID FERRIE on two more occasions at Lafitte's. On the first of these occasions MR. SPIESEL asked FERRIE to help him get some accounting work. MR. FERRIE told SPIESEL to call CLAY SHAW. MR. SPIESEL called CLAY SHAW three times during the month of June, 1963, at his office. However, MR. SHAW was never in to receive any of these calls. MR. SPIESEL left his name at SHAW'S office on one or two occasions. As he recalls it, MR. SPIESEL looked up CLAY SHAW'S telephone number in the directory and called the listing which gave him MR. SHAW'S office. However, he said he might have called his home and someone at that number could have given him MR. SHAW'S office number.

On the last meeting with DAVID FERRIE at Lafitte's, FERRIE told SPIESEL that he had talked to SHAW and that SHAW had said he would be unable to get SPIESEL any accounting work. This meeting with FERRIE was the last time he saw him.

MR. SPIESEL is willing to testify and only requests that we attempt to get him some per diem accounting work while he is in the City.

For: *miscellaneous file*
(Copy for *Tramler*)
also for *Lead files*

M E M O R A N D U M

November 8, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney
FROM: HAROLD WEISBERG
RE: Interview with:
AL CLARK and CLINT BOLTON
Dixieland Hall

Late last night and the night before I interviewed these people. CLARK alone last night.

CLARK is described to me (BARBARA REID) as a respectable homosexual of the "SHAW" type and probably well acquainted with SHAW. CLARK acknowledged to me only 2 social encounters with SHAW. BARBARA thinks a much close relationship is probable especially at such parties as are staged at JOHN DODT's.

CLARK was not the purpose of my visit. I wanted to elicit CLINT BOLTON's cooperation re: THORNLEY and if his word means anything we have it. BOLTON confirms your information that THORNLEY hated Kennedy (which BARBARA denies). He is in current communication with THORNLEY who is in Tampa.

CLARK told me that in the Summer of 1963 prior to OSWALD's literature distribution, he met OSWALD when introduced by DEAN ANDREWS at the Dixieland Hall which was then next door. CLARK says there was this one occasion only.

He has a thorough dislike for ANDREWS who he regards as an inveterate liar and a dishonest man. CLARK and BOLTON also told me of what they had been told by BOOTSIE GAY.

BARBARA REID describes BOOTSIE GAY as a homosexual of fine Southern family background occasional inheritances and the operator of a small gallery. (More on tape)

BOOTSIE GAY according to this story was in G. WRAY GILL's office at the time FERRIE was first being "investigated" by the FBI. She is said to have said she saw GILL going over FERRIE's papers in his office. These included a chart of the assassination scene.

It is my present recollection that the information was AL CLARK's and that BOLTON knew about it either by having been present or by having been told. Both described BOOTSIE GAY as the last person you would want as a witness, but believe her.

Last night I checked back briefly to see if CLARK had seen others who he knew or thought might have been ANDREWS' clients. This was negative but he assumed an openly defensive position about SHAW and his normally smiling face got hard. He would not really say he had not seen SHAW more than 2 times. He said only that he had seen SHAW twice.

HAROLD WEISBERG

HW/leb

To: Bellhell
Please answer, then place in
LEAD FILE II

Repl Dec 4

Dear Mr. Garrison,

I am somewhat hesitant in writing this as I feel that I have been watching too many spy movies, nevertheless, I believe that I have some information which may be some small help to you in your Kennedy probe. But let me first say that nothing below should be construed as facts or inferences detrimental to anyone's character or reputation.

From March to June of 1962, while living in Palo Alto California, I worked in the political campaign of a conservative California Assemblyman, Joe Shell, with a man who identified himself as Don Nichols (spelling not definite). "Nick" claimed at that time to be an ex-mercenary soldier. No one who knew him doubted this. His attitudes and physique spoke for themselves. In addition, he was not the loudmouth type who would claim such an occupation for a perverted sort of prestige. As a matter of fact, I never heard him tell stories of his adventures or act in any way that would indicate to me that he was a phoney. He claimed to have been a professional bodyguard in South America for some time. I believe that when I knew him he had a Latin wife and a small child, though I never met them personally. He mentioned that he had fought in Cuba with Castro. He said that when Castro had "turned Commie" he had tried to get back into Cuba to fight against him, but was unable to make his contacts in Mexico, and he came back to the U.S. He mentioned one time that he had been offered a job with the Tunisians (or Algerians) during the confrontation over the French base at Biserte, but he had turned them down. He said that he had fought the Communists in (X) wars and (f) revolutions, and now he was going to fight them at the polls. He once told me that he would do anything, kill, rob, destroy, anything, except "sexually pervert my body," to fight the Communists, and I think he was sincere. ✓

When Dick Nixon beat Shell in the primary, Nick shouted when the results came in "The Goddamn Commies have won again!" The night of the primary was the last time I ever saw him. In the fall of 1962 I asked some mutual friends what had become of Nick. They replied that he had gone on some kind of an extended drunk and left his wife and child for parts unknown. They further said that a warrant was issued for his arrest for non-support, but that the police had been unable to find him. ✓

When I read your interview in Playboy I noted that you claimed that David Ferris had also fought with Castro. Also I realized that Nick had disappeared about the time that you said the training camp was established near New Orleans. I went to the Warren Report and read Mrs. Nancy Perrin Rich's testimony. I realize that it's a long shot which borders on the ridiculous, but I couldn't help think that the wrestler type who was supposed to go to Mexico and arrange things could have been Nick.

I have since checked the 1960-63 phone books in the Bancroft Library to check for a listing of a Don Nichols (and all other possible spellings) in Sunnyvale California, as that is where one of the local chairmen of the Shell

organization told me Nick resided. There was no listing in that name which fell into the correct time period. I also checked with the Sunnyvale Police Dept. to see if any warrant were issued in that name in late '62 or early '63. The clerk told me she had no such record.

About six or eight weeks ago, I wrote to the people who had told me about the warrant, but I received no reply from them.

There are several possibilities open: (1) check the water, gas and electric companies in Sunnyvale for Nick's old address; (2) check with the county clerk and county sheriff concerning the supposed warrant; (3) assume that he did not live in Sunnyvale and check all cities between San Jose, and Redwood City in San Mateo county.

Perhaps if you could find Nick, he might be able to give you some information regarding the people who did or would be in your training camp. I am sure that he would know a great number of people who would fit into your category of "adventurers". I feel that I've done all that I can, especially since I am living so far from all the necessary records. If this isn't worth your time, you can write it off, and if it is, well I suppose that you can get some one to look up the facts. As I stated earlier, I feel rather silly trying make something out of the above material, but the worst that can happen is that you will agree with me. Still, the people who told me about the warrant for Nick's arrest for disertation, once asked him what of a gun they should keep around the house for protection. I cannot forget his answer. He said "Use a knife; it's quieter."

Most sincerely,

David Alexander

David Alexander
2745 Bancroft Ave.
Room 708
Berkeley, California 94721
Nov. 30, 1967

Lead files
(Source unknown)
JZ

Subject operated station wagon with curtained windows - closed except for front seat - avoided and evaded officers of the law when operating the wagon. Wagon was equipped with two way radio - carried large supply of firearms - including long range rifles. Subject travelled considerably.

Subject spoke several foreign languages.

Subject at one time (known December 1963) carried large sums of money on person. Subject had no known source of income or employment.

Subject was adept at map making. Subject used unorthodox method of designating directions on property maps. For example instead of using call North 70 degrees West subject would use 290 degrees.

Samples of subject's handwriting are

DATE: TO: *considered to be in*
FROM: *below, for only until such time* JZ
SUBJECT: *below, for only until such time* JZ

No mention has been made of maps used. If such maps or copies (exact) are available and this handwriting bears any resemblance to handwriting, or such resemblance as would justify further inquiry, mention of maps and their use or some identifiable reference thereto in news releases might result in positive identification of subject.



HON JAMES GARRISON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEW ORLEANS LOUISIANA

M E M O R A N D U M

November 17, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: ANDREW SCIAMBRA, Assistant D. A.

RE: INSPECTION OF NEWSPAPER MICROFILM OF 1963

While looking through some microfilm of 1963 newspapers I noticed the following bits of information which may be of some interest:

MR. & MRS. EDWARD H. BLUM of 7524 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, were visiting in Dallas, Texas on the day of the assassination. They were staying at the Adolphus Hotel and looking out of their window and both observed the President's car pass and moments later heard the shots.

MR. EAMES, who lived next door to OSWALD, and his wife both commented on the possibility of OSWALD being the assassin even before his name was mentioned on TV. MRS. EAMES further comments that her husband saw LEE HARVEY OSWALD at the library on several occasions.

JOSE ROGRIGUEZ MOLINA, who was an employee of the depository at the time of the assassination, went to the Dallas Police Station on the day after the assassination to talk to LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He did not get to talk to OSWALD, Instead, he talked to CAPTAIN FRITZ and left. The details of his conversation with FRITZ are not mentioned. Also, it should be noted that a policeman on duty around the depository had occasion to go into the depository and saw OSWALD in the lunch room and pulled his gun on him. However, someone who identified himself as the manager of the lunch room told the policeman that OSWALD was an employee of the depository and the policeman let him go.

MR. H. LOUIS NICHOLS, President of the Dallas Bar Association, went to talk to OSWALD on the day after the assassination. He said he was worried about OSWALD getting the proper legal representation. It would be interesting to learn something about this person's political beliefs.

The paper also said that as early as September 26th the President's plans for a trip to Dallas were announced. However, the specific route was not mentioned.

JESSE CORE and JOHN ALICE had occasion to pass OSWALD when he was handing out leaflets in front of the International Trade Mart and OSWALD actually handed leaflets to them which they returned to him.

CARLOS BRINGUIER got some publicity shortly after the assassination because of his encounter with OSWALD. The paper states that a middle-aged man entered into a discussion with BRINGUIER arguing that he had no right to say that OSWALD was the assassin because he was accusing an innocent man. The middle-aged man is not named.

The verdict of not guilty was returned in the MARCELLO trial at 3:20 p.m. and DAVID FERRIE had stated that he was in the courtroom at the time.

ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA

*File - Make Jones
Card*

M E M O R A N D U M

November 13, 1967

TO: LOUIS IVON, Chief Investigator

FROM: SGT. TOM DUFFY AND DET. CLIENCY NAVARRE

RE: MR. FOREST SADLER
Christensen Diamond Products Co.
Lafayette, Louisiana

Sgt. Tom Duffy and Officer C. Navarre received an assignment to follow-up information contained in a letter by Robert E. Lee, dated November 2, 1967. The information referred to an unknown Mexican guide stating to MR. SADLER that CLAY SHAW and LEE HARVEY OSWALD were seen together in Mexico City in 1963.

Officer Navarre talked to a MRS. IDA REYNOLD RICHAUD, wife of the manager of the DeVille Motel located 3800 Tulane Avenue. MRS. RICHAUD stated that while she was in Lafayette, Louisiana, in April or May of 1967, she met MR. SADLER who stated to her that he met a well-known Mexican guide while on a convention in Mexico City. This guide asked MR. SADLER to have the District Attorney get in touch with him. The guide told MR. SADLER that he once guided the Kennedys. Further that he saw CLAY SHAW and LEE HARVEY OSWALD on the steps of a hotel in Mexico City. MRS. RICHAUD stated she does not know why MR. SADLER did not notify the District Attorney.

Officer Navarre then called the Christensen Diamond Products Company located 1104 Hancock Street, Gretna, Louisiana. A secretary there stated that MR. SADLER comes to New Orleans, Louisiana, on an average of once a week and that she would give him the message to get in touch with the District Attorney's Office.

Further information to follow in another memo.

*Follow up
on Sadler.*

For: Ltr. Pals of Para-Military
Rt Wing file

V.F. 9-C Norwich Road
College Park, Maryland
September 16, 1967

Mr. James Garrison,
District Attorney for New Orleans
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Garrison:

Note!
Caro Karmayn mentioned
that we had been contacted by
Dinkin. I have not seen the
letter. J.F.

After reading your interview in the October issue of Playboy, I find that I am more convinced than ever that you are correct in continuing your investigation into the Kennedy assassination.

One part of your interview concerned your inability to find out what type of allegation PFC Eugene Dinkin made. I was stationed with Dinkin in 1962 and 1963 at the 529th Ordnance Co., APO 189, in Germany. Dinkin received either a Bad Conduct Discharge or a General Discharge for his curious behavior. He tended to be an idealistic leftist intellectual, who was constantly talking of plots and conspiracies being formed by the John Birch Society and elements of the right wing.

He breached security in one of his "crusades" against the right, the Army. The Army "encourages" participation in the U.S. Savings Bond a month plan to a point where all had to buy them. Dinkin refused, and wrote a letter to a newspaper exposing pressure being brought to bear on him and members of the installation. He identified his job in the installation in the article, which was secret and thereby a security violation. This led to the withdrawal of his security clearance and transfer to France. It was rumored back to us that he'd gone AWOL, had been seen going into a Russian embassy in Paris and been picked up when he came out. It was further said that he'd been sent back to the States for psychiatric examination and subsequent discharge.

He was always talking of plans the Army had to take over the government, and was convinced the right wing would attempt to assassinate President Kennedy. He'd always impressed me as a very intelligent kook who'd gone off the deep end; especially towards the end. He was sure the CIA, Army CID were following him, "bugging" his room, spying on him etc.

I heard from a friend who lives in Chicago (where Dinkin originates) back in 1965 that Dinkin was doing social work on the south side, in the Negro slum areas. He had had a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Chicago, and talked about going back there to do graduate work, when I knew him. He would have been released from the service about February of 1965 had he finished his enlistment.

I don't know if this information will be of any use to you, but I thought perhaps the University of Chicago's Registrar might be able to give you at least his parent's address, if you wanted to locate him. I hope this letter gets to you as I'm sure it's addressed inadequately.

Very sincerely yours,

Richard F. Moltzon
Richard F. Moltzon

Mrs. White stated that Mr. Demontfort had a painting over his bed which he was in love with and that he played Voodoo music.

*you cannot copy
lead file.
JJ*

M E M O R A N D U M

*For
□ Dallas
check*

November 2 , 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: GARY SANDERS

RE: CHECK ON A MAURICE GENE MORSCHECK

He applied for a passport the same day as
LEE HARVEY OSWALD on the New Orleans passport list.
(CE 952 - 18 H 324).

The man was not a resident of New Orleans
(no phone number in 1963 New Orleans phone book) at the
time of the passport application.

MORSCHECK now resides in Dallas at 10436
Brockbank Drive, phone number FL-2-1346.

AGE: 44

F. M. ...
+ Lead file.

M E M O R A N D U M

December 12, 1967

Dallas

action needed

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: GARY SANDERS, Investigator

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Mr. EDWARD A. BRAND, 1924 Riverway Lane, Dallas, Texas (a/c 214, 227-1495) was working for the Tower Insurance Company, 1045 N. Zangs, Dallas, Texas (a/c 214, WH 8-7596) at the time of the assassination. Mr. BRAND told a confidential source in Dallas that a man he later said was LEE HARVEY OSWALD had asked him about buying automobile insurance about a week or so before the assassination of President Kennedy.

This is an interesting piece of information since it would seem to verify the testimony of ALBERT GUY BOGARD, (10H352) a salesman for Downtown Lincoln-Mercury in Dallas, that a man who said he was LEE OSWALD had approached him about purchasing an automobile on November 9, 1963.

It is also interesting to note that 1045 N. Zangs is only a few doors from 1026 N. Beckley.

As far as I know, no one from this office has talked to Mr. BRAND and he should be contacted for any further information that he may have such as a signature of the man he talked to or an order form which might have been filled out in anticipation of the insurance sale.

GARY SANDERS

cc: Bill Boxley

+ lead files

82

M E M O R A N D U M

November 3, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: MARK LANE

RE: Interview with ROGER CRAIG, October 25, 1967,
Fontainebleau Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana

PRESENT: ROGER CRAIG, JIM GARRISON, BILL BOXLEY, MARK LANE

This is not intended as an official document or a comprehensive report of the interview which consumed more than three hours. I took sketchy notes at best and even that only in those instances where the subject matter seemed to be related to areas of interest.

CRAIG said that he was at Houston and Main on November 22, 1963, at 12:30 P.M. He was then a Dallas Deputy Sheriff. The Presidential limousine passed him and turned north onto Houston. After the vehicle turned south-west onto Elm, CRAIG heard three shots. By snapping his fingers he demonstrated the time sequence. A shot -- a short pause of perhaps a second or two -- then two shots -- one following the other so closely that there was practically no time separation between them. CRAIG's demonstration seemed to preclude the possibility that one man fired the second and third shots with the alleged assassination weapon which required a two . three second interval.

CRAIG said that he ran to the wooden fence on the grassy knoll, left that area, began to search for a bullet or bullet mark on the South side of Elm and then at about 12:44 or 12:45, he saw a man, he now knows to be LEE HARVEY OSWALD, cross the grassy knoll in a path which would be consistent with his having come from the Book Depository. OSWALD walked across the grassy area separating Elm Street from the Elm Street extension and entered into a light colored Nash station wagon which had a built in chromium luggage rack on the roof. The vehicle bore out of state plates, probably green or blue.

CRAIG's attention was initially engaged by a whistle, evidently a signal between the operator of the vehicle and OSWALD and then he noticed that OSWALD was leaving the scene while others were arriving. CRAIG placed the time at about 12:45. He said that the man driving the vehicle was not Negro but that he was dark skinned -- possibly Latin. His skin he said appeared to be very smooth. The driver had a powerful face, neck and shoulders. CRAIG repeatedly used the words "powerful" and "muscular" to describe his neck and shoulders. The driver wore a light tan zipper jacket. The following day I showed CRAIG a picture of the jacket found near the scene of the TIPPIT murder, Commission Exhibit 162. CRAIG said it was identical with the jacket worn by the driver.

CRAIG said that police officers who arrived at the PAINE's home was a Nash station wagon

the PAINE's driveway and that it bore Louisiana license plates.

CRAIG later arrived at police headquarters and told FRITZ of the man who left the scene by station wagon. FRITZ took CRAIG to his, FRITZ', office where two men were seated. CRAIG identified OSWALD.

He recognized OSWALD, seated alongside the desk, as the man he had seen in Dealey Plaza. FRITZ said to OSWALD that CRAIG saw him enter a "car" after the assassination. OSWALD became angry -- stood up and raised his voice as he spoke to -- almost shouted at FRITZ. OSWALD said that the "station wagon" and Mrs. PAINE had nothing to do with it. CRAIG said that OSWALD then seemed to realize that he had revealed too much information -- having answered by referring to a station wagon.

OSWALD then, as if in resignation sat down in his chair and said "Now everyone will know who I am."

Later DECKER told CRAIG not to discuss his having seen OSWALD's exit from the scene with anyone. DECKER also said, "You did not see OSWALD."

CRAIG also was on the Sixth floor of the Book Depository. He and other officers went there because of what the ROWLANDS told CRAIG. CRAIG saw the three shells -- all very close -- to CRAIG suspiciously close together -- on the floor. Two of the shells were touching -- the other $\frac{1}{4}$ inch removed.

CRAIG saw a small grocery bag but no large paper sack in which the rifle was purportedly carried.

CRAIG said that he was near a police car radio and was listening to the broadcasts. He said that there was no broadcast of a suspect's description until after TIPPIT was killed. He was certain of that. When informed that FBI and Dallas Police Department prepared transcripts of tapes of the radio broadcasts disclose a description at 12:44 - 12:45, CRAIG said that the transcripts are incorrect.

CRAIG also said that an officer present at the police show-up for HELEN MARKHAM said that she identified a police officer -- not LEE HARVEY OSWALD who was also in the lineup -- as the murderer of TIPPIT. It was the "identification" of OSWALD by Mrs. MARKHAM that the Commission relied heavily upon as proof that OSWALD shot TIPPIT.

When asked about WARREN REYNOLDS, CRAIG said, "That group is too tough for me." When asked to explain he said that the REYNOLDS auto lot dealt in stolen and stripped cars. He said that STANFIELD killed NORMAN BOSS in 1961 or 1962 and that BOSS "ran around with GARNER."

CRAIG believes that JACK RUBY was in the hallway when he, CRAIG, identified OSWALD in FRITZ' office.

After RUBY's death (RUBY's, not OSWALD's) the Dallas Police Department found hand grenades and rounds of ammunition in a storage area, belonging to RUBY, behind RUBY's apartment building. CRAIG's description of the area and of the objects discovered there appears to corroborate the testimony of

the statement that she made to me subsequent

appearance before Commission counsel both as to the area where she was taken and the objects that she viewed. If CRAIG is correct then it appears that the ammunition may have remained in the storage area while Mrs. RICH was testifying and while the Commission was writing its Report.

When CRAIG testified before BELIN, the lawyer showed him two sets of clothing each in a separate cardboard box. CRAIG picked out OSWALD's clothing. BELIN declined to make that portion of the questioning part of the official record.

BELIN, said CRAIG, is under 6 feet and slim with dark hair.

CRAIG said that BELIN seemed uninterested in his testimony. "He acted like the quicker he got it over with the better." CRAIG had no idea that FRITZ would state that he did not recall the CRAIG - OSWALD confrontation in his office. He did not even know that FRITZ had so testified until the Warren Commission Report was issued. He is certain that FRITZ recalls the matter very well. CRAIG said that the manner in which OSWALD shouted at FRITZ when he became annoyed with him did not present a picture of a prisoner and an officer. The relationship seemed almost reversed.

CRAIG's proof of his presence in the room could be documented by BOOKHOUT who took CRAIG's name and wrote it on his pad as CRAIG entered the room just as he did with all others who entered the office. Yet the sheet with CRAIG's name is now missing. CRAIG said that the effect of the announcement that TIPPIT had been killed was to immediately switch the entire investigation from one which sought the President's assailant to a search for TIPPIT's murderer. If the assassins were aware that a police officer's death might bring about such a response -- if the Dallas Police Department's response was predictable -- the role played by the murder of TIPPIT as part of an escape scheme by the assassins must be evaluated. Even now the Dallas Police Department betrays a sensitivity to questions about TIPPIT's death not present when one explores the facts surrounding the assassination. TIPPIT had been involved with a car-hop at Billy's Drive In on South Lamar.

CRAIG said that the pressure to fire CURRY as Police Chief came from FRITZ -- through ELGIN CRULL, the City Manager. According to CRAIG the royal family in law enforcement has FRITZ as the king. He ran the entire assassination inquiry and now knows that he was wrong -- that there was a conspiracy to kill the President -- but does not dare to say so.

DECKER also knows the Warren Report is wrong, but does not want to get involved.

CRAIG said BILL ALEXANDER runs the District Attorney's office. He was close to RUBY. When asked about RUBY's statement that ALEXANDER was his closest friend, CRAIG answered -- "Half of the Dallas Police Department was RUBY's closest friend."

At 2:00 A.M., November 24, 1963, DECKER called FRITZ and said that OSWALD should be transferred at once, "Let's move OSWALD now. I got a tip he will be killed." FRITZ refused to move OSWALD then stating, "I promised the press."

CRAIG's uncle is ROY VAUGHN. VAUGHN knew RUBY, CRAIG said, and so he accepts VAUGHN's statement that RUBY did not enter the basement by passing him.

CRAIG said that GEORGE MCGANN is tied in with R. D. MATHEWS. "You cannot operate in Dallas without an O.K. from MATHEWS." TRUMAN CARTER was killed four months ago. His brother, JOHN, is missing and efforts to locate him after TRUMAN's death were not successful.

MCGANN and MATHEWS were suspected of being involved in the CARTER murder. After CARTER was killed FRITZ moved quickly. He picked up 15 stolen suits and four material witnesses. He began to search for MCGANN. MCGANN had disappeared. Then information reached FRITZ that MATHEWS was involved -- was indeed the murderer. CRAIG said MATHEWS likes to do his own killing. FRITZ halted the investigation. MCGANN returned and called FRITZ asking if he wanted to see him. FRITZ replied that he did not. The case was dropped.

Eight of the stolen suits remain in the Police Department Property Room -- seven, presumably having been stolen from there. CRAIG was asked if the case is now "unsolved." He answered, "Yes, and it will remain so. MATHEWS' money goes in and out of Las Vegas in a suitcase. He operates behind the front of a travel agency. "PHENIUS BLANKENSHIP is the only money gun in Dallas County.

JAMES STEVENSON is in Dallas. He has a letter from RUBY. It was smuggled out by a trustee. It names WADE FRITZ and BACHELOR. STEVENSON's father was in jail at the time.

There was a reference to JACK LAWRENCE in the Dallas newspaper not long after November 24, 1963. It is said that FRITZ generally did not take notes. This, said CRAIG, is untrue.

CRAIG said that a Federal narcotics agent found WALTHERS growing marijuana in his back yard. He also was found to be shaking down prostitutes for half of their total gross -- which appears to exceed the normal take. Yet WALTHERS continues on the force.

CRAIG said that WALTHERS has seen DECKER's secret file and thus DECKER will not -- cannot -- fire him. The file evidently has information about many persons and many events.

DECKER permits MATHEWS to post bonds although MATHEWS has neglected to abide by the law which requires the filing of a statement regarding property ownership as a pre-requisite to the posting of bonds.

The Minute Men are very strongly organized in Grand Prairie. GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL had planned to move to Dallas. He was killed just before he was to move.

MATHEWS lives in Irving, Texas.

PAPPY DAWSON booked acts and put them together. He put together the Breck Wall - Peterson Show. His agency was upstairs in the Continental Bus Station. He owned "PAPPY's Showland" in Oak Cliff, near Ft. Worth avenue. He was associated with ABE WEINSTEIN. All of the girls working in "joints" worked out of PAPPY's agency, including, of course, those employed by RUBY.

"BEVERLY" who worked for PAPPY married GEORGE MCGANN.

P.S.

CRAIG returned to Dallas. A few days later, on Wednesday, November 1, 1967, he reported that he had been shot at.

He said "The shot -- it sounded like a pistol -- came from behind me and went over my left ear." He said, "I could feel the wind." Further details appear in the Times-Picayune, November 3, 1967.

For: lead files &
indicated files
(Follow-up action
by Bethell)

MEMORANDUM

November 8, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney
FROM: TOM BETHELL
RE: FPCC LITERATURE HANDED OUT ON
DUMAINE STREET WHARF

PAUL HOCH, a researcher on the West Coast, has drawn my attention to an apparent discrepancy in the exhibits regarding the HANDS OFF CUBA! pamphlet in CE 1412 which purports to be the one furnished to the FBI by Lieutenant ALLEMAN of the New Orleans Harbor Police. This pamphlet, which has the address deleted, also has characteristic crease marks where it was apparently folded.

However, CE 2966-A displays a HANDS OFF CUBA! pamphlet, without the address deleted, with identical creases. This pamphlet was forwarded to the Warren Commission by the Secret Service on September 15, 1964 with the attached note:

"These circulars were taken from the possession of LEE OSWALD by the New Orleans Police Department at the time he was arrested on August 9, 1963." (CE 2966)

Thus the pamphlet published as CE 1412 cannot be the one retrieved by the Harbor Police almost two months before OSWALD's arrest. The question therefore arises: was there any reason to conceal the pamphlet GIROD RAY of the Harbor Police in fact obtained from OSWALD, (if it was OSWALD).

I suggest we request the Harbor Police to provide us with the original copy of this pamphlet, together with GIROD RAY's report.

Contact Harbor Police